

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Kurganov et al.

Serial No.: 09/777,406

Filed: February 6, 2001

Title: PERSONAL VOICE-BASED  
INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

Atty Docket: 47242-  
00028USPT

Group Art: 2661

Examiner: Unknown

**DECLARATION OF JAMES M. SKLENA**

I, James M. Sklena, declare as follows:

1. I am an employee of Jenkens & Gilchrist. I am the Supervisor of the Offices Services Department of the Chicago Office.

2. I was first contacted by the secretary for Russell J. Genet on August 10, 2001, a Jenkens & Gilchrist attorney, to help in finding a copy of the Express Mail receipt for a patent application with Attorney Docket No. 47242-00028USPT ("the '406 application"). The Express Mail number of this application was EK506616987US.

3. On August 10, 2001 I contacted the "Brentwood Station" Post Office in Washington, D.C. in an attempt to get a copy of the Express Mail mailing label for the '406 application. My understanding is that this post office delivers mail to the U.S. Patent Office with zip code 20231. I was unable to get any information from this post office at this time.

4. I called the Brentwood Station in Washington, D.C. again on August 14, 2001. They were unable to provide me with any information and suggested I call the main post office in Chicago, known as the "Chicago Central Facility" located at 433 W. Harrison St., Chicago, Illinois 60607. So, on August 14<sup>th</sup>, I called the Chicago Central Facility but was unable to speak with anyone.

5. I telephoned the Chicago Central Facility again on August 16, 2001 and inquired about obtaining a copy of the missing Express Mail receipt. I was informed that I needed to come to the Post Office and speak with a supervisor at the main counter.

6. A few days later, on August 21, 2001, I went to the main customer counter at the Chicago Central Station and spoke with a supervisor. The supervisor stated they would search their records and attempt to find a copy of the Express Mail receipt for the '406 application.

7. By September 5, 2001, I had not heard from the main counter supervisor. So, I called the Express Mail Division of the Chicago Central Facility to see if they could provide any further help. The Express Mail Division indicated they would not be able to help me and I should continue to speak with the main counter supervisor.

8. On September 10, 2001, I again spoke with the main counter supervisor who was searching for the Express Mail records. The supervisor indicated they were unable to find any copies of the Express Mail receipt for the '406 application.

9. Finally, on October 4, 2001, I went to the "Loop Station" Post Office at 211 S. Clark St., Chicago, Illinois 60604, which is the post office location where all of our Express Mail packages are typically deposited. I asked whether they would be able to obtain a copy of the Express Mail receipt for the '406 application. They were also unable to locate such a copy.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: 10/9/01

  
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James M. Sklena